

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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TAGS: PINT, KS
SUBJECT: SECOND TRIAL OF STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS

REF: (A) SEOUL 9681 (DTG 080858Z DEC 76), (B) SEOUL 2217
(DTG 180822Z MAR 77)

SUMMARY: TRIAL OF STUDENTS ARRESTED FOR DECEMBER 8 DEMONSTRATION
AT SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CONTINUED MARCH 25. DECLARATION
MADE PUBLIC FOR FIRST TIME DEFENDANTS ADMITTED VIOLATION OF
EMERGENCY MEASURE 9, EXPLAINED THEIR ACTION AND DREW APPLAUSE
FROM SPECTATORS. NEXT SESSION SCHEDULED APRIL 8.

1. ON MARCH 25, YONGDUNGPO BRANCH COURT HELD SECOND SESSION
OF TRIAL OF THREE SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SNU) LAW COLLEGE
STUDENTS CHARGED WITH PLANNING AND LEADING DEMONSTRATION OF
ABOUT 200 STUDENTS ON SNU CAMPUS DECEMBER 8, 1976 (REFTELS).
AT THIS SESSION, DEFENSE CROSS-EXAMINED THREE (YI POM-YONG,
PAK SOK-UN, AND PAK KYE-MUN), WHO ADMITTED WRITING AND
PRINTING ABOUT 300 COPIES OF A QUOTE DECLARATION FOR DEMOCRACY
AND NATIONAL SALVATION. UNQUOTE

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2. EIGHT POINTS OF DECLARATION, MADE PUBLIC FOR FIRST
TIME, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. MAKE PUBLIC THE FACTS IN PAK TONG-SON SCANDAL AND
BRIBERY OF U.S. CONGRESSMEN;

B. ABOLISH YUSIN CONSTITUTION AND EMERGENCY MEASURE

(EM) 9, AS THEY LEAD TO ONE-MAN DICTATORSHIP AND LONG-TIME
RULE;

C. GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF PRESS AND CAMPUS;

D. RELEASE DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS AND STUDENTS
EXPELLED FOR POLITICAL REASONS;

E. GUARANTEE BASIC (I.E., QUOTE CIVIL UNQUOTE) RIGHTS;

F. GUARANTEE RIGHT OF LIVING OF GENERAL PUBLIC (WORKERS);

G. (CONCERNS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS: HIGH INFLATION AND
LOW WAGES);

H. GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF CAMPUS AND FREE ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES.

3. IN COURSE OF CROSS-EXAMINATION BY DEFENSE LAWYER,
ALL THREE STUDENTS (WHO WOULD HAVE GRADUATED IN FEB. 19977,
PAK WITH A PRESIDENTIAL CITATION) SAID THEY HAD KNOWN THAT
PLANNING A DEMONSTRATION TO CRITICIZE THE QUOTE DICTATORSHIP
UNQUOTE WOULD VIOLATE EM-9, AND HAD EXPECTED TO BE PUNISHED.
OTHER POINTS: THEY LEARNED OF PAK TONG-SON CASE IN OCTOBER 1976
FROM VOA; THEY ORGANIZED DEMONSTRATION TO EXPRESS OWN OPINIONS,
NOT TO OVER-THROW GOVERNMENT; THEY DEMONSTRATED BECAUSE OF
FEELING OF SHAME OVER PAK TONG-SON CASE, NOT BECAUSE OF
ENCOURAGEMENT AT PRESIDENT CARTER'S QUOTE MORAL DIPLOMACY
UNQUOTE, WHICH IS UNRELATED -- QUOTE I WILL BE CONVICTED AND
CANNOT GET A JOB, WHAT CAN CARTER DO FOR ME? UNQUOTE.
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SAID THEY KNEW OF PRESS CENSORSHIP FROM LISTENING TO OTHERS,
FROM TONG ILBO AD INCIDENT, FROM CENSORSHIP OF STUDENT
PUBLICATIONS, AND FROM FACT PAK TONG-SON CASE NEVER MENTIONED
IN DOMESTIC PRESS; AND THEY FEEL STUDENTS CANNOT CONDUCT ACTIV-
ITIES AT ALL FREELY, SINCE ORGANIZATION OF STUDENT DEFENSE
CORPS. AT CONCLUSION OF SESSION, SPECTATORS ALL APPLAUDED THE
STUDENTS, WITHOUT ATTEMPT BY BAILIFFS AND COURT OFFICIALS TO
PREVENT THIS SHOW OF SUPPORT (CONTRARY TO THEIR ACTIONS IN
MYONGDONG TRIAL).

4. SINCE DEFENDANTS HAVE ADMITTED GUILT, AT THIRD SESSION
(TO BE HELD APRIL 8), PROSECUTORS WILL PROBABLY OFFICIALLY
SUBMIT DEMANDS FOR PUNISHMENT AND DEFENSE WILL PROBABLY
WIND UP ITS CASE. BARRING UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS, JUDGE
MAY PRONOUNCE SENTENCES AT FOURTH SESSION.
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